

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 04475 011030Z

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6054

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UNCLAS ATHENS 4475

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, EMIN, GR

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF EPIRUS PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS

REF: ATHENS A-20

1. THE GREEK INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL AND MINERAL RESEARCH (IGME) IS SEEKING SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN CARRYING OUT A RESEARCH PROGRAM TO DEVELOP A BENEFICATION METHOD FOR THE EPIRUS PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS (SEE REF A). THESE DEPOSITS, WHICH ARE ESTIMATED TO EXCEED ONE BILLION TONS, ARE OF MICROCRYSTALLIC TEXTURE CONTAINING CALCITE AND THEIR BENEFICATION PRESENTS A PROBLEM. IGME CONTACTED TWO U.S. INSTITUTES SOME WEEKS AGO AND IS EAGERLY AWAITING A RESPONSE.

2. SINCE THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY IS KEENLY INTERESTED IN MOVING FORWARD ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EPIRUS PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS

,
WE URGE THE DEPARTMENT TO CONTACT THE TWO U.S. INSTITUTES AND REQUEST AN EARLY RESPONSE TO THE GREEK APPROACH FOR ASSISTANCE. THE RESPONSES SHOULD BE SENT DIRECTLY TO IGME (70 MESSOGION STREET, ATHENS 608) WITH COPIES TO THE EMBASSY. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE KNOWING IF THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY CAN ASSIST IGME IN THIS RESEARCH.

3. THE IGME MESSAGE TO THE U.S. INSTITUTES, DATED MAY 10, 1978, WAS ADDRESSED TO: A) INTERNATIONAL FERTILIZER DEVELOPMENT, 402
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FIRST FEDERAL BUILDING, FLORENCE, ALABAMA 35630, AND B) U.S. BUREAU OF MINES, ALBANY METALLURGY RESEARCH CENTER, P.O.BOX 70, ALBANY, OREGON 97321. THE MESSAGE READS: QUOTE: DEAR SIR:
IN VIEW OF ASSESSING THE POSSIBILITIES OF VALORISATION OF NOT ALTERED PHOSPHORITE ORE DEPOSIT WITH CALCAREOUS GANGUE FROM EPIRUS AREA, WITH 15 PERCENT AVERAGE P2O5 CONTENT, WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE USE OF THE GOOD SERVICES OF YOUR INSTITUTE. WILL YOU,

THEREFORE, LET US KNOW WHETHER YOU CAN CARRY OUT, IN THE FIRST PHASE, LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS AND BENEFICATION, ON A SAMPLE WHICH WE ARE GOING TO SEND YOU, FOR INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITY OF PRODUCING MARKETABLE PRODUCT WITH SATISFACTORY COST. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BE INFORMED THE COST OF THE ABOVE WORK AND WHETHER A PARALLEL TRAINING OF ONE OF THE MINERAL PROCESSING ENGINEERS OF IGME, ON THIS SUBJECT, IS POSSIBLE. YOURS SINCERELY,
G. MACHAIRAS, DIRECTOR GENERAL. UNQUOTE.
MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

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